



the **SOCKET Bulletin**



2017 WAS A DOGGONE GOOD YEAR.
2018 IS GOING TO BE EVEN BETTER.

Socket turned 40 this year (in dog years, of course!) and we figured he needed a little re-fresh. So, in 2018, Socket is getting a new look and cutting-edge content. Watch for an announcement soon!

Looking Back on 2017

We are proud of Socket's many accomplishments and awards in 2017:

Awards & Conferences

Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award for Building Green

U.S. Green Building Council IMPACT TN Community Engagement Award

Session speaker at USGBC's GreenBuild in Boston, MA

Session speaker at Growing Sustainable Communities Conference in Dubuque, IA

Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN) grant recipient

Center of Responsible Energy

2016 [High Performance Building Report](#) issued

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory summary report released

Saved \$777,000 in energy costs and 4.4 million gallons of water on LEED buildings in 2016

Produced nearly 142,000 kWh of renewable energy from 8 rooftop solar panel arrays

Engagement

New Socket website launch

Socket's Employee workshop program began

ConnectMetro tours pilot launched

574 Tweets, 597 Facebook posts, and 484 Instagram posts

21 blog posts

[New Fire Station 19 video](#)

Reached 4,560 people through our presence at festivals and public events

Engaged 783 people through 14 educational workshops

Added two new full-time staff to General Services' growing group of sustainability experts

Hosted 6 interns, 3 of them through Mayor Barry's OpportunityNow program

Socket Shines at Metro's Christmas Tree Lighting

Socket was a hit with the many kids (young and old) who attended the annual Metro Christmas Tree Lighting on December 1st at Public Square. Socket even got to take a picture with Santa!



New Landscape & Green Infrastructure Manager



Treff Alexander, General Services' new Landscape & Green Infrastructure Manager, comes to us with over 12 years' experience in landscape architecture. After earning his Masters in Landscape Architecture from Auburn University, Treff worked for the National Park Service for more than 10 years. In this role, he travelled extensively, tackling projects across the country. Treff then worked in the private sector in Chattanooga for awhile before returning to his hometown of Nashville to begin his position with Metro.

As Treff manages General Services' landscapes and green infrastructure, he emphasizes sustainability and saving energy, water, and money. Treff is thrilled that his efforts support larger city goals including storm water management and increasing the city's tree canopy. Welcome to the General Services team, Treff!

The LEAFs are Dropping



Leaves may be gone from the trees, but they have just arrived at several Metro facilities! General Services has delivered a total of 6 brand new Nissan LEAF 100% electric vehicles to three Metro departments for shared pool use. Metro Public Works, Parks Department, and Public Health have all received these zero emission vehicles to conduct Metro business, all while improving air quality! Check out the new video of [LEAF delivery to Lentz Public Health Center!](#)

ConnectMetro Pilot Launches



General Services is piloting a new employee engagement program called ConnectMetro designed to showcase department projects and bring staff closer together. Tour sites include eBid, Metro's online auction, and award-winning LEED® Platinum Fire Station #19. So far, the program is a great success!

Socket's Educational Workshops



This year, Socket delivered in-depth sustainability workshops to 77 Metro employees from ITS, Library, General Services, and Public Health. In addition, facility tours, webinars, and

workshops reached more than 600 individuals. This personal outreach is a great complement to our robust digital platform and helps Socket spread the word about sustainability far and wide!

What It Takes to Be LEED® Platinum

Check out our [new video of Fire Station #19](#) and learn about the first LEED® Platinum Fire Station in the Southeast! This remarkable building, which won two awards this year, is a shining example of Metro's sustainability initiatives.



'Tis the Season

Socket wants to ensure you have a green and happy holiday season. Check out our holiday blogs: [Sustainable Holiday Shopping Guide](#) and [Green Holiday Tips](#) for fun and easy ways to make the holidays shine bright!



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